

## Message Text

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14

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EB-11 L-03 AID-20 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SPM-01 RSR-01 /058 W

----- 101013

R 040555 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3615

UNCLAS JIDDA 1358

PASS BUCEN FOR MCMAHON

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SPOP, SA

SUBJECT: BUCEN PROPOSAL FOR TECHNICAL ADVISORY ASSISTANCE  
TO SAG CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

REF: A) JIDDA 881

B) MCMAHON/ DEFORD LETTER, FEBRUARY 12, 1973

SUMMARY. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH MOHAMMED AL FAYIZ, HEAD OF SAUDI CENSUS BUREAU AND CENTRAL STATISTICS HEAD ALI RASHID IN RIYADH APRIL 1, EMBOFF LEARNED SAUDI DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL STATISTICS ( DCS) HAS DRAWN UP NEW DRAFT AGREEMENT TO REPLACE ON SENT BY REF ( B). EMBOFF GIVEN ARABIC DRAFT VERSION, TRANSLATED COPY OF WHICH BEING FORWARDED BY POUCH. KEY ELEMENT IN NEW DRAFT IS REQUEST FOR TEN-MAN- MONTHS' ASSISTANCE IN LIEU FIVE PROPOSED BY BUCEN. ALI RASHID SAID DCS DRAFT WILL NOW BE FORMALLY REVIEWED BY THEIR LEGAL ADVISOR; HE EXPECTS FINAL VERSION WILL REMAIN SUBSTANTIVELY SAME AS DRAFT. EMBASSY SUPPORTS DCS DRAFT; WOULD APPRECIATE BUCEN COMMENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. MAIN POINTS OF BUCEN PROPOSAL ARE:

A) AGREEMENT WILL PROVIDE FOR APPROXIMATELY 10 ( IN LIEU OF 5) MAN- MONTHS OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY ASSISTANCE. ( THIS EXCLUDES WORK DONE TO DATE BY MSSRS. FAY AND ADAMS.)  
B) BUCEN PROPOSAL SUGGESTS COSTS BE ESTIMATED AT ABOUT \$80,000, RPT \$80,000, AND NOT BE FURTHER BROKEN DOWN.

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NOTATION SAYS THIS AMOUNT WILL COVER ALL EXPENSES INCLUDING SALARY, OVERHEAD, TRANSPORTATION AND PER DIEM. NO MENTION MADE OF POSSIBILITY SAG COVERING TRANSPORTATION OR PER DIEM COSTS, AS DCS PREFERS BUCEN PAY ENTIRE COST AND BILL SAG ACCORDINGLY. ( FIGURE OF \$80,000, ABOUT 15 PERCENT ABOVE TWICE ESTIMATED ORIGINAL OFFER ( I. E. \$35,000) IN ORDER COVER 8 PERCENT SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENT AS WELL AS ALLOW FOR UNFORESEEN COSTS.)

C) PROPOSED OFFER NOTES BILLING PROCEDURE FOR EACH EXPERT WOULD MERELY BE FOR BUCEN TO PRESENT SAG WITH BILL FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF TDY. AS SAG WILL DEDUCT SAUDI SOCIAL SECURITY FROM BILL, ALI RASHID SAYS BUCEN SHOULD OVERBILL SAG APPROPRIATELY; HE SAYS BUCEN CAN EXPECT RECEIVE 92 PERCENT OF ANY TOTAL BILL PRESENTED SO SHOULD FIGURE ITS CHARGES ACCORDINGLY. ( ALTHOUGH THIS MAY SOUND LIKE SLIGHTLY COMPLICATED BILLING PROCEDURE, IT IN FACT IS INGENIOUS METHOD OF CUTTING THROUGH SAG BUREAUCRACY AND ASSURING BUCEN WILL BE PROMPTLY AND FULLY REIMBURSED FOR SERVICES RENDERED. TO OBTAIN SOCIAL SECURITY EXEMPTION OR SUBSEQUENT REIMBURSEMENT FOR ASSESSED PAYMENT WOULD REQUIRE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' APPROVAL, AND LENGTHY WAIT, IN EACH CASE.

D) AGREEMENT WILL BE VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1975. NOTATION IN OFFER WILL PERMIT EITHER PARTY TO TERMINATE AGREEMENT BY GIVING THREE MONTHS NOTICE.

E) IN LIEU OF LISTING SPECIFIC TDY VISITS ENVISIONED UNDER AGREEMENT, AS CURRENT BUCEN OFFER DOES, SAG PROPOSAL PROVIDES FOR IT TO SUBMIT REQUEST FOR EACH EXPERT AS NEEDED, AT LEAST FOUR WEEKS PRIOR TO WHEN HE IS NEEDED. BUCEN WILL THEN PROPOSE EXPERT, AND MAKE AVAILABLE HIS CURRICULUM VITAE FOR DCS ACCEPTANCE.

2. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES SUGGESTED SAG PROPOSAL IS SENSIBLE AND WELL THOUGHT OUT, AS IT ESTABLISHES LARGE FUND OF MONEY, WHICH CAN BE DRAWN UPON AS NEEDED, AND HQUS

AVOIDS BUREAUCRATIC RED TAPE. ALI RASHID SAID HIS OFFICE WOULD BE IN CONSTANT TOUCH WITH BUCEN TO WORK OUT, WELL IN ADVANCE, SCHEDULE OF EXPERTS. HE SAID DT WOULD NOT

ALWAYS BE ABLE ESTIMATE EXACT LENGTH OF TDY, WHICH WOULD DEPEND ON LENGTH OF TIME EXPERT REQUIRES TO ACCOMPLISH SPECIFIC TASK. THIS ADDITIONAL REASON FOR FLEXIBILITY IN UNCLASSIFIED

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FUNDING.

3. IF SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES IN DRAFT PROPOSAL ACCEPTABLE TO BUCEN, EMBASSY WILL SO NOTIFY ALI RASHID. ( LANGUAGE IN TRANSLATED DOCUMENT SEEMS SOMEWHAT OBSCURE; BUCEN MAY WISH CHANGE IN ORDER CLARIFY.) THEN, AFTER DCS OBTAINS FORMAL APPROVAL FROM ITS LEGAL ADVISOR ON VERSION ACCEPTABLE TO BUCEN, EMBASSY WILL FORWARD IT TO BUCEN IN ORDER DRAW UP AND SIGN NEW " OFFICIAL COST ESTIMATE AND ACCEPTANCE." EMBASSY WOULD THEN FOREARD THIS TO ALI RASHID FOR HIS SIGNATURE.

4. ALI RASHID INDICATED NEXT EXPERT NEEDED WILL BE ON OR ABOUT JUNE 1. HIS TASK WILL BE THAT IN PARA 2 OF ORIGINAL BUCEN OFFER, I. E., TO REVIEW OVERALL CENSUS PLAN TO DATE. HOPEFULLY, NEW AGREEMENT WILL HAVE BEEN SIGNED BY THEN.

5. ACTION: BUCEN COMMENTS ON DCS PROPOSAL REQUESTED.  
THACHER

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

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